United Nations

A/53/6 (Prog. 1)

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Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001

Programme 1. Political affairs

1. The preparation, format and content of the medium-term plan and its revisions are governed by the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation.

2. Regulation 3.11 provides, *inter alia*, that the medium-term plan shall be revised as necessary every two years to incorporate required programme changes and that the proposed revisions shall be as detailed as required to incorporate the programme implications of the resolutions and decisions adopted by the intergovernmental organs or international conferences since the adoption of the plan.

3. The revisions proposed below modify paragraphs 1.2 to 1.4, 1.6, 1.7, 1.11, 1.13 and 1.19 to 1.24 of programme 1, Political affairs, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001, which was adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 51/219 of 18 December 1996 and issued in document A/51/6/Rev.1 and Corr.1.

4. In its resolution 52/220 of 22 December 1997, the General Assembly approved the Secretary-General's proposal to establish the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services. It is proposed to delete subprogramme 1.5, General Assembly affairs, under this programme and to include it in the proposed new programme 27, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference services.

5. Consultation with the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples will most likely take place subsequent to completion of these revisions, as they relate to subprogramme 1.6, Decolonization.

A. Programme

Paragraph 1.2 In the second sentence, *delete* "3, General Assembly affairs;".

Paragraph 1.3 After the words "and 47/120 B of 20 September 1993, entitled 'An Agenda for Peace'" *insert*, "as well as 52/12 A and B of 12

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November and 19 December 1997, respectively, entitled 'Renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform'".

Paragraph 1.4 *Delete* subparagraph 1.4 (e) and *renumber* the subsequent subparagraphs accordingly.

Paragraph 1.4 (h)
(new paragraph 1.4 (g))

Delete the words "the General Assembly," and *insert* after the words "subsidiary organs," the words "and substantive services to the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and People,".

B. Subprogrammes

Subprogramme 1.1 Prevention, control and resolution of conflicts

Paragraph 1.6 At the end of the paragraph *add* the following:

"The Secretary-General has designated the Department of Political Affairs as the United Nations focal point for post-conflict peace-building – that is, the mechanism for ensuring that United Nations efforts in countries that are emerging from crises are fully integrated and faithfully reflect the mission objectives specified by the Security Council and the Secretary-General. The Department of Political Affairs will carry out its functions in its capacity as convener of the Executive Committee for Peace and Security."

Paragraph 1.7 *Replace* the third sentence with the following:

"As convener of the Executive Committee for Peace and Security, it will also coordinate and collaborate with other departments in the Secretariat, as well as various United Nations programmes and agencies and regional arrangements and organizations".

Subprogramme 1.2 Assistance and support to the Secretary-General in the political aspects of his relations with Member States

Paragraph 1.11 In the second sentence, *insert* the words "including conflict prevention," after the word "security".

Subprogramme 1.3 Electoral assistance

Paragraph 1.13 In the second sentence, *replace* "49/190 and 50/185," with "49/190, 50/185 and 52/129,".

Subprogramme 1.4 Security Council affairs

Paragraph 1.19 *Replace* paragraph 1.19 with the following:

"1.19 In addition, the subprogramme includes research and the preparation of analytical studies on the application and the interpretation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to the activities of the Security Council and its provisional

rules of procedure. Following adoption by the General Assembly of resolutions 51/209 and 52/161, the Department will continue development of proposals for the merged format of the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council* and the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* with a view to retaining the information contained in both of them. The new format will be presented for the approval of Member States in the progress report to be submitted to the Assembly at its fifty-third session. Under the new arrangements the Department will have a coordinating role for the production of the parts of the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* devoted to the Security Council, while it will continue to prepare its own contribution. Proposals with a view to updating the Supplements and ensuring their regular publication in the future will be developed."

Subprogramme 1.5 General Assembly affairs

Delete subprogramme 1.5 and *renumber* the subsequent subprogrammes and paragraphs accordingly. It is proposed to transfer the activities of this subprogramme to the proposed programme 27, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference services.

Subprogramme 1.6 Decolonization
(New subprogramme 1.5)

Paragraph 1.28
(new paragraph 1.23)

Replace the text of paragraph 1.28 with the following:

"1.23 The Department of Political Affairs will provide the required substantive services to the Trusteeship Council and assist in preparing the reports of the Trusteeship Council, if it should meet, in accordance with its rules of procedure."

Add a new paragraph 1.24 to read as follows:

"1.24 The Department of Political Affairs will also carry out research and prepare analytical studies on the application and interpretation of the relevant articles of the Charter of the United Nations related to activities of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, their subsidiary organs and ad hoc bodies and the Trusteeship Council in the areas of trusteeship and decolonization, for inclusion in the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*."

and *renumber* the subsequent paragraphs accordingly.

C. Legislative mandates

Subprogramme 1.1 Prevention, control and resolution of conflict

General Assembly resolutions

Replace resolution 50/87 with 51/4

Add the following resolution:

52/12 A and B	Renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform

Subprogramme 1.2 Assistance and support to the Secretary-General in the political aspects of his relations with Member States

General Assembly resolutions

Replace the following resolutions:

50/18 with 52/14

50/87 with 52/22

50/158 with 52/20

Add the following resolutions:

51/4	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States
51/16	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community
52/4	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Conference
52/5	Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States
52/7	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union
52/12 A and B	Renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform
52/204	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community

Subprogramme 1.3 Electoral assistance

Replace resolution 50/185 with 52/129

Subprogramme 1.5 General Assembly affairs

Delete this section. The subprogramme is proposed for deletion under programme 1 and inclusion under new programme 27.

Subprogramme 1.6 Decolonization (new subprogramme 1.5)

General Assembly resolutions

Replace resolution 50/39 with 52/78

Add the following resolution:

52/220	Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999

Subprogramme 1.7 Question of Palestine (new subprogramme 1.6)

Delete the following resolution:

50/84	Question of Palestine

Add the following resolutions:

52/49	Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People
52/50	Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat